CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: 752EB96D7703A38F

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 2000221.026

Medium: Image File

Publisher: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: Not applicable

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification: Objectionable.

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 09 September 2020

Date of direction to issue

a label:

No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 08 September 2020

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file explicitly depicts a man sexually abusing a young girl. It is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes. It presents young girls as sexually available and appropriate subjects for adult sexual use, and further encourages and legitimises such an interest. The image is clearly intended to be sexually arousing to people with a prurient interest in young girls. The image may also be used for grooming purposes. The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification criteria. The objectionable classification given to this image interferes with the right to freedom of expression, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications that promote and support the exploitation of children for sexual purposes be deemed objectionable. It is also reflects the concerns of a "free and democratic" society to protect its young and vulnerable members from exploitation.